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INFO RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 3806
RUEHNV/AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 0031
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0115
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 0005
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RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0215
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 0021
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE 0007
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA 0005
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0038
RUEHSV/AMEMBASSY SUVA 0004
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN 0008
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI 0028
RUEHTG/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 0429
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0042
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0209
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA 0006
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0112
RUEHUR/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR 0014
RUEHVT/AMEMBASSY VALLETTA 0036
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0065
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS 0019
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 0019
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0010
RUEHWD/AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK 0002
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0004
RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN 0003
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB 0005
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 000322

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/17/2019

TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [PREL](#) [KV](#)

SUBJECT: PANAMA: DEMARCHE ON KOSOVO'S IMF AND WORLD BANK
MEMBERSHIP BID DELIVERED

REF: STATE 33709

Classified By: POLCOUNS BRIAN R. NARANJO. REASONS: 1.4 (B) AND (D)

(C) "Having recognized Kosovo in January, Panama will have to act in a manner consistent with that decision and support Kosovo's membership in both the IMF and World Bank," Acting FM Javier Bonagas told POLCOUNS on April 17. Previously, Ambassador had sent First VP and FM Samuel Lewis and Minister

of Economy and Finance letters on April 8 urging Panama to support fully Kosovo's membership in these IFIs. Due to top GOP officials' extensive travel over the past few weeks, post has had significant difficulty securing appointments for Ambassador to see Lewis and Alexander regarding this demarche. Ambassador did have the opportunity to flag this issue for Lewis briefly last week on the margins of a meeting concerning efforts to advance the U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement toward ratification, and POLCOUNS followed up to deliver reftel demarche. While not enthusiastic in expressing support for Kosovo's bid to become a member of the World Bank, Bonagas was resigned believing Panama, having recognized Kosovo, had no other alternative but to support Kosovar membership in the IFIs. Bonagas undertook to coordinate closely with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, which to date has not played a part in the MFA-led engagement on Kosovo.

STEPHENSON